

- Arrow shafts must be permanently marked near the fletching in a weather proof manner with the hunter’s full name.
- Blaze orange is recommended but not required for archery hunters.

Sika Firearm Hunt

- The season opens on Monday, December 13, 1999 and runs for one week. The season will resume on Monday, January 3, 2000 and run for three consecutive weeks. Each week of the hunt will be divided into two hunt periods: Monday - Tuesday and Thursday - Friday.
- Completed applications must be received in person at the refuge administration building or postmarked no later than October 8, 1999. Applications will not be accepted over the telephone. A computerized lottery will be held on October 20, 1999. Notification to successful applicants will be mailed to the designated contact person.
- Additions and/or substitutions can be made, provided the person(s) adding or substituting did not apply to the computer lottery.
- Hunters are not entitled to switch hunt zones and weeks once lottery selections have been made.
- Each hunter must pay the \$20.00 refuge permit fee by check or money order made payable to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The confirmation letter and money must be received at the refuge administration building or postmarked by Wednesday, November 17, 1999. Hunters will not receive additional notification after their money is received, but should simply attend the required firearms orientation before their assigned hunt period. If a hunter needs to confirm receipt of money, they may contact the refuge administration office.
- Sika hunt orientations will be held at 10 am on Sundays and Wednesdays during the season with scouting permitted from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. An additional 1 pm orientation will be offered on December 12, 1999. Hunters may attend any firearms orientation to receive their permit prior to their scheduled hunt; however, to avoid overcrowding in hunt zones, scouting will only be permitted for hunters scheduled for the two day hunt period immediately following the day of the orientation.
- Toms Cove Hook area may be available to hunting parties with 4-wheel drive vehicles that attend the firearms orientations, and are willing to give up their original assigned hunt zone. The Toms Cove Hook area may be available to standby hunters, also.

- Vacant zones will be filled by groups of up to four hunters who apply for the stand-by lottery following each firearms orientation. Only the group representative is required to be present at the lottery drawing, as long as the remaining group members have attended a previous firearms orientation during the current season. Those selected as standbys are required to pay the \$20.00 fee at the orientation.
- A valid Virginia hunting license and big game license are required.
- All persons in firearm hunt zones must wear a minimum of 400 total square inches of blaze orange material consisting of a vest or jacket and hat. Blaze orange camouflage is not acceptable.
- Hunting will be allowed in an area of approximately 10 acres near the headquarters building until 8 am each morning of the sika firearm hunt and for those hunters in zone 1b. Following the orientation, a short briefing will be required for hunt groups assigned to this area.
- Four-wheel drive vehicles are required in zones 10 and 10A.

Sika Hunters in Wheelchairs

- Hunting in zone 2 is reserved for wheelchair hunters during the first week of the sika firearm season. Additional periods will be added if more than eight hunters apply. The hunt week(s) will be divided into two periods: Monday - Tuesday and Thursday - Friday.
- In zone 2 there is a 1.6 mile paved loop trail that is ideal for permanently disabled hunters in wheelchairs. Please mark on your application if you are interested in hunting in the wheelchair zone. Hunters in this zone must stay on paved trails, established foot paths & the overlook platform, except when retrieving a deer.
- Refer to the sika firearm hunt section for provisions regarding applications, lottery procedures, notification, additions, substitutions, switching weeks, fees, licenses, bag limit, confirmation letters, and sika orientations.
- A group of four hunters must be determined. Otherwise, the refuge will combine hunters to fill the maximum of four hunters per period.
- A hunter must be accompanied by a non-hunting partner if he/she needs assistance retrieving and/or dressing harvested animals.
- Shotguns or muzzleloaders must be used in the wheelchair hunt zone. Rifles are only permitted on the overlook.

- Hunters with other disabilities will find most of the firearm zones and all of the shotgun zones accessible. For more information, please contact the refuge.

Whitetail Firearm Hunt

- Refer to the sika firearm hunt section for provisions regarding hunting parties, applications, lottery procedures, notification, additions, substitutions, switching zones and weeks, fees, licenses, confirmation letter, and required vehicles.
- The whitetail hunt starts on Monday, December 20, 1999 and runs for two days (Monday and Tuesday).
- Whitetail hunters must attend the orientation held at 10 am on Sunday, December 19, 1999 to receive and/or validate their permit. Hunters will be permitted to scout their assigned zone from 11 am until 6 pm.
- Whitetail hunters must take an antlerless deer only, on day one of the hunt period. If an antlerless deer is not taken on the first day, the hunter may return on day two to hunt either sika or antlerless whitetail up to the preset bag limits.
- Antlered white-tailed deer may not be taken on the first day of the hunt.
- Wheelchair hunters will have the option to hunt whitetails in Zone 2 during the designated whitetail hunt period.
- Sikas may also be taken according to these and the provisions established for the sika firearm hunt.
- Virginia big game tags must be used on white-tailed deer taken on the refuge.

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336-0062
Telephone: 757 336 6122

Hearing Impaired visitors may call the Virginia Relay Service at 1 800 828 1120 TDD/ 1 800 828 1140 voice.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800 344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov/>

August 1999



Chincoteague

National Wildlife Refuge

Big Game Hunting



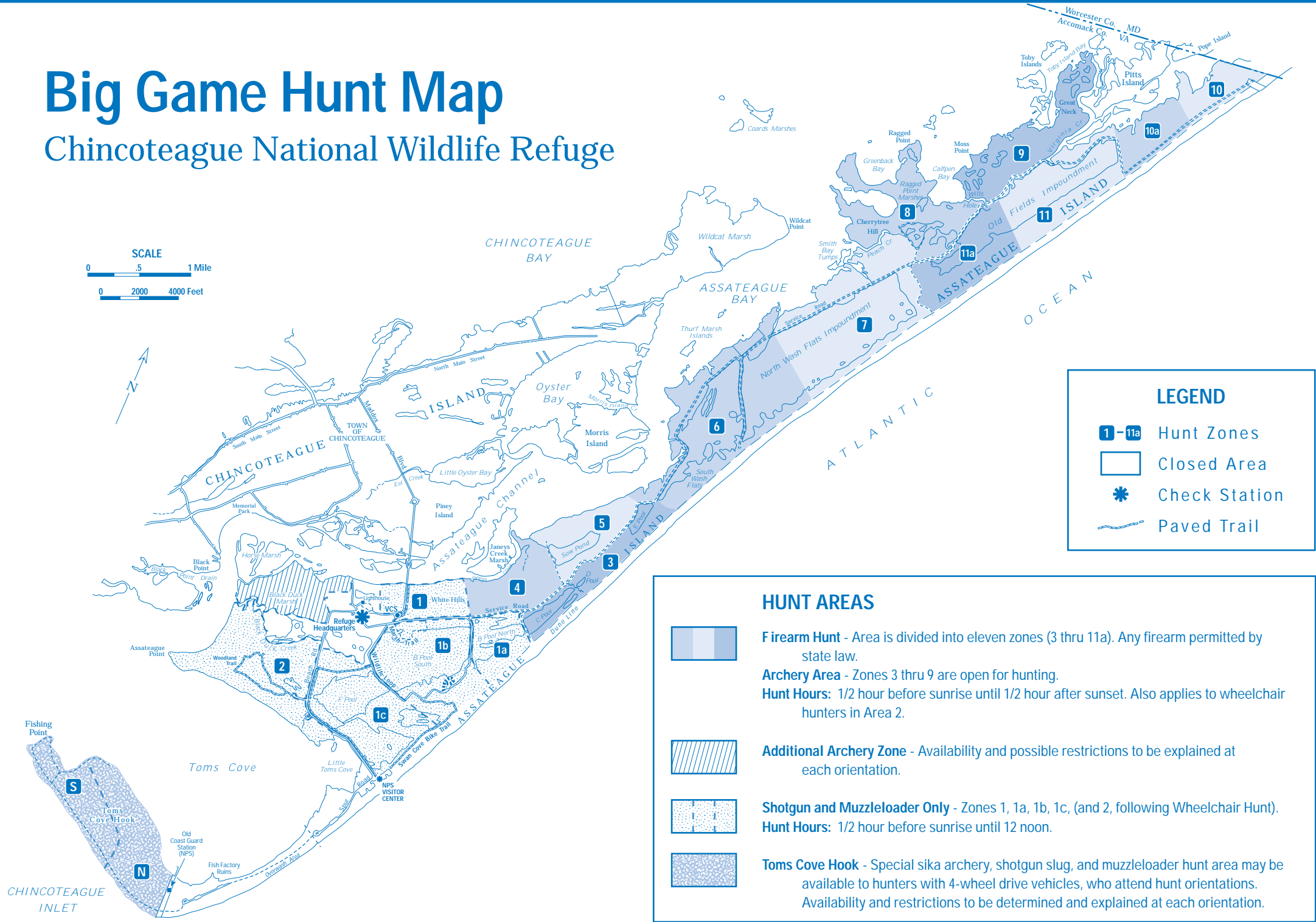
Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336-0062

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov/>

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

Big Game Hunt Map

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge



General Provisions

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 500 National Wildlife Refuges. The primary objective of a refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment, provide wholesome recreational opportunities, and permit the use of a valuable renewable resource.

General Hunt Regulations:

Firearm and Archery

- Public hunting of sika and white-tailed deer is allowed during designated times and on designated zones of Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. A refuge permit is required to hunt, but does not serve as an entrance pass to the refuge.
- Hunting parties of up to four people may apply. If a person's name appears on more than one application, all applications will be disqualified. At least one of the persons on the original application must remain in the actual hunting party, and at least one member of the actual hunting party must be 18 years of age or older.
- All Federal and State hunting regulations apply.
- Firearms in vehicles must be unloaded and completely cased or disassembled.
- Loaded firearms and nocked arrows are prohibited on or within 50 feet of the center line of all access roads.
- The boundaries of the hunt zones are recognized in the field by prominent landmarks, flagging and signs (see map). It is the hunter's responsibility to know the boundaries of his/her hunt zone.
- A sign-in/sign-out box is located near the check station. Each hunter must sign in and out immediately before entering and after exiting the hunt zone.
- Each permitted firearm and archery hunter may take up to five sika, two of which may be antlered. The taking of wildlife other than the permitted species is prohibited.
- Hunters are not permitted to cross water management areas unless retrieving a harvested animal.
- Hunting from a stand which has been attached with nails, wire, screws, bolts, or which has been *permanently attached* in any other way to a tree is prohibited.
- Virginia tagging and checking requirements do not apply to sika harvested from the refuge; however, all harvested animals must be brought to the refuge's official check station for inspection by personnel.

- All hunters must make a reasonable effort to recover wounded animals and must notify the check station immediately if they have been unable to do so.
- Permit money will not be refunded for any reason.
- Non-hunters are not permitted in the field except in the wheelchair zone to assist handicapped hunters.
- The use *or possession of* alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

Sika Archery Hunt

- The archery hunt starts on October 4, 1999 for three days and resumes on October 18, 1999 for an additional three day hunt. Each hunt is limited to 75 hunters.
- Completed archery applications must be received at the refuge administration building by Friday, September 3, 1999. Applications will not be accepted over the telephone.
- Archery Hunters will be selected by computerized lottery on September 8, 1999. Groups of up to four hunters may apply. Notification letters will be mailed to the successful applicants immediately following the lottery. Only the designated contact person will be notified and he/she will be responsible for informing the other party members of the assigned dates.
- After selections have been made, additions to original archery applications will not be permitted; however, substitutions can be made up to one week prior to the assigned hunt date by calling the refuge administration office.
- It is mandatory for all hunters to attend the orientation session on the Sunday prior to their assigned hunt date. The session will begin at 10 am with scouting permitted from 11 am - 6 pm. The \$20.00 permit fee for each hunter will be collected and permits issued following the orientation.
- A valid Virginia hunting license, archery license, and big game license are required.
- The Toms Cove Hook area may be available to archery hunters with four-wheel drive vehicles and attend the orientation (see map).
- Sika deer drives are prohibited.
- Portable stands must be removed at the end of each three day hunt period. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will not be responsible for any stands left overnight.